



Fleet and District Art Society Newsletter October 2011

www.FleetArt.org.uk

Chairman's Jottings

By the time you read this we will have had the first of our autumn demonstrations and I am sorry that I had to miss this as I was in the Highlands of Scotland.

Your committee has produced an updated information sheet for new members and this will also be available on our web site, this sets out our aims and details the various activities that we promote. I found this very informative and I hope you will too, any comments would be welcome.

As I mentioned in our last Newsletter our annual exhibition will now take place end November, beginning December each year. Arrangements are now in hand for the exhibition that takes place in the Chernocke Hall at the Fleet Harlington Centre on Friday/Saturday 2/3 December 2011 so get painting!

The web site is updated three times a year at the same time that we produce our Newsletter. I would welcome any newsworthy items for inclusion in the News section of the web site. We will also publish the names of winners of the monthly painting competition and if winners could send to me a photograph of their painting electronically I will ensure that it is

published on the web site.

I am hoping to arrange a workshop some time next year in North Wales (I happen to like mountains) so look out for details in due course.

I look forward to seeing you all in October.



Ken Baker

Winter Exhibition News

Friday 2nd & Saturday 3rd December 2011

THERE ARE A NUMBER OF CHANGES TO NORMAL SO PLEASE READ THE DETAILS!

We are hoping to generate some new excitement by adding a section of small paintings, which we believe will entice more Christmas shoppers to include a painting in their gift selection. You may enter up to 3 small paintings. The maximum frame size is 10 by 12 inches and minimum sales price £25. To accommodate this new section we have reduced the number of allowed other hung paintings from 5 to 4 and the pottery items from 21 to 15. The hanging fee for the small paintings is just £2, with the fee for other paintings to hang remaining at £4.

The Handing-In time and Opening times are both later than normal because we cannot have access to the hall as early as usual. Hand-in is just 10:30 to 11; opening Friday is at 12:30.

The Social evening will start earlier, at 6pm, so as to encourage more visitors. Hopefully more people will drop in either on their way home from work or before they settle in at home for a dark winter's evening.

Friends of Fleet Hospital will now be the charity of choice for all our exhibition donations (the 10% of all sales proceeds except for cards). There will no longer be a raffle of small prizes.

A raffle of several members' paintings will be held, with the winning tickets drawn at the close of the exhibition. We will retain the proceeds for the Society's use.

The selection of possible Fleet Hospital Exhibitors for 2012 will be taking place during the exhibition. Paintings for the hospital display need to be about 16 by 20 inches minimum. We hope to see similar examples of your work if you might be interested in participating in this scheme. See more details overleaf.

- **YOUR ENTRY FORM IS ENCLOSED or ATTACHED FOR YOU TO PRINT (e-mail).**
- **THE DEADLINE FOR ENTRY FORM RECEIPT IS TUESDAY 15TH NOVEMBER.**
- **YOUR EXHIBITION INSTRUCTIONS ARE ALSO ENCLOSED. PLEASE READ CAREFULLY.**

Fleet Hospital Display of Paintings

There will now be a selection of Hospital Exhibitors each calendar year, with a changeover of participants in January each year. This selection of designated artists will take place based on the work shown at our annual exhibition. Jill Smith has kindly agreed to take on the organisation of this activity. Each artist who agrees to participate will be asked to provide large paintings, sometimes in a particular medium. The displayed work does not have to be the paintings you had in the exhibition, but the organiser will want to create a co-ordinated exhibit so may have specific requirements.

When changes are needed during the year, either to refresh the exhibit or due to a sale, the relevant exhibitors will be asked by Jill to provide another painting if possible. A 10% commission fee is deducted and donated to the Friends of Fleet Hospital for any sold work. Changes to the display will be made on arranged Saturday mornings.

The changeover for 2012 will be held on Saturday morning, Jan 28th, 2012 from 9 to 12 am. If you either have work hanging at the hospital now or you agree to be an exhibitor for 2012 you will be contacted by Jill with more specific instructions. Her telephone number is 01252-676520.

Our thanks to Val Fedrick and Desi for their organisation of this display in the past.

Membership Renewals

Renewals will have been paid now. Many of you have agreed to have your Newsletter delivered by email. Thank you! Please let me know promptly if you change your email address or want to change your selection of the delivery method for your newsletter.

If you know of anyone who has not received their newsletter please pass along the message for them to call Frances Reed, at 07876-502184 or 01252-616748

Prospective members will be asked in early October if they wish to join the Society.

Congratulations to Members!



Rosemarie de Goede's Painting "Just Houses" (left) won the Andrew Hiller Award for Creativity at the SWA Annual Exhibition in July

Hilary Dancer was Artist of the Month at The Frame Gallery in Odiham at the time of their First Anniversary Celebration recently.

Mark Your Calendar

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| 15 th /16 th Oct | Brian Fox Exhibition & Sale | Christ Church, Galley Hill Rd, Church Crookham |
| | All proceeds to the development & maintenance of the church | |
| | Sat 10-5, Sun 11-4. | Admission Free, Refreshments Available |
| 12 th Nov | Meeting, Demonstration by Mike Bragg, <i>Life Drawing</i> | Competition: <i>Woods and Woodland Settings</i> |
| 15 th Nov | Exhibition Entry Form Deadline | |
| 2 nd /3 rd Dec | Winter Exhibition including Social Evening | |
| 10 th Dec | AGM Meeting | |
| 14 th Jan | Meeting, Demonstration by Liz Seward, <i>Mixed Media Still Life</i> | Competition: <i>Craggy Coasts and River Banks</i> |
| 23 rd Jan | Copy Deadline for Feb Newsletter | |
| 28 th Jan | Fleet Hospital Display Paintings Changeover Day 9-12am | |
| 11 th Feb | Meeting, Demonstration by Keith Morton, <i>Acrylic Portrait</i> | Competition: <i>Portraits of Pets and Other Animals</i> |
| 11 th Feb | Next edition of the newsletter distributed at our meeting | |

**YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS ARE INVITED TO
A SOCIAL EVENING**

**By the FLEET & DISTRICT ART SOCIETY
At their WINTER ART EXHIBITION**

**FRIDAY, 2ND DECEMBER 2011
6 – 9 PM**

CHERNOCKE HALL, HARLINGTON CENTRE, FLEET

FREE ENTRY~ AFFORDABLE ART~ REFRESHMENTS

**10% OF THE EXHIBITION PROCEEDS ARE
DONATED TO THE FRIENDS OF FLEET HOSPITAL**

Jake Winkle: Last of the Summer Workshops

How eagerly we had entered our names on the list to attend Jake Winkle's workshop as a result of seeing his demonstration during the year. We were hoping to learn how to create some of his watercolour magic: painting dark to light with interesting shapes and colours. He was to concentrate on boats as the subject.

Jake quickly redefined our understanding of his method, describing it as the direct method: correct shape, tone, and colour the first time (as opposed to layering). Good planning came first, and thankfully he had done that for us this time! He guided us through two paintings, explaining and illustrating, followed by our attempts to recreate each stage ourselves.

The work was started with a pencil drawing of key lines only, worked from the centre outwards. Watery washes were prepared, with skies scrubbed vigorously in many directions while sea/ land was applied horizontally. Whites and some focal areas were left by cutting around. It was mostly normal advice so far, but then the special touches began to appear:

- Choice of colours- greyed for recessions, vibrant to bring forward, unusual hues
- Very dark darks but with interesting colour mixes
- Lots of light areas remaining and use of counterchange
- Impressionistic marks with different parts of the brush
- Water reflections simplified yet still indicating the state of the water.

Jake had described himself as a colourist and I personally especially enjoyed this aspect. When he started talking about optical illusion effects created on some of the white areas I felt we had indeed reached the point of 'magic' but sadly it was time to go home.

Frances Reed

Jake's Exhibition Tips for His Current Best Sellers:

1. Animals with movement- either in actions or in the paint effect
2. Simplified Images, vignette style
3. People with movement

Least successful: classic landscapes

Meeting Reports by Ron Clements

OCTOBER: Jean Haines, SWA

It's with a certain lack of interest and commitment that I arrive at the hall for the first demonstration of the new season. Since the last meeting I have hardly touched a brush, and the small amount of work I did do ended up in pieces in the rubbish bin. I'm rather hoping the demonstrator, Jean Haines, will re-ignite my artistic fire again. Well, with just one look at her

display of cards and paintings I am immediately cheered. This is someone whose work I can really admire and aspire to.

Introducing herself, Jean explains how she was initially concerned with painting every detail regardless of the subject. These days she is only interested in colour; detail has gone by the board.

She begins her demo by laying down very wet, and therefore very loose washes of red, yellow and dark blue. Then she covers the blue area with cling film and places it to one side for further attention later.

Unfortunately much of her continuous commentary is lost to me. And that's in spite of her microphone and my two hearing aids! Not being able to hear much is definitely a big disadvantage if I'm trying to report a demonstration. I must try to concentrate on what she's *doing* rather than what she's *saying*.

On a fresh sheet of paper, Jean begins work on a portrait of a cockerel. The starting point is a small black dot, the iris of the bird's eye. Using the same techniques as before, she puts down very wet, colourful washes and, true to her word, there's almost no detail.

And now Jean starts on a third painting, a single bright yellow flower. Whilst I can't properly hear the content of her commentary, her voice tones convey her excitement and enjoyment, with lots of laughter from her and the audience.

At the interval I'm dispatched on an emergency mission. Consequently I'm not able to gather member's comments in the usual way.

As the second half begins my acute powers of observation tell me Jean has been fitted with a different mike during my absence. This, I assume, is the work of Magic Dave (the video man who is known and admired far and wide – well, between here and Farnham -for the speed and dexterity with which he switches people's dodgy microphones). Unfortunately, whilst the new mike does make Jean's voice louder, it hasn't improved the level of clarity I need for better understanding.

Jean kicks off the second half with yet another painting, this time a row of very shaggy black and white dogs. Her process stays the same as before. First some specific black dots (the dog's noses), which she surrounds with extremely wet, runny colours. Her brush is darting about in what seems to be a totally random manner. When she wants to change the direction of the runs, she merely turns the paper round. Using a slightly thicker mix, Jean pays attention to some darker areas: the noses, the shady areas between the heads. Almost magically the separate heads show the character of the dogs.

Then, quite suddenly I recognise precisely what she's doing. She's painting with water! I've never realised that possibility before. I've always thought I should paint with paint, if you see what I mean.

What a result this demo has provided for me. Maybe, just maybe, I can now capture the loose effects that have nearly always escaped me. Thanks a lot, Jean.

p.s. For those of you who were at this demo, I swear I had already scribbled these last two paragraphs in my notebook *before* Desi gave Jean a vote of thanks.

WINNERS OF THE PAINTING COMPETITION: FRANCES REED, TERRY HOOPER AND JOHN JENNINGS

Ed's Note: I agree there were problems with the sound. Apologies to all whom were unable to hear the many useful tips. My favourites: about direction and wow factor, unique colours fusing on the paper, enthusiasm for your colours, practice for fun, and know when to stop!

Fleet Art Society Committee	As at Sept 2011	Telephone	E mail Address
Chairman	Ken Baker	01252 872858	kenfbaker@gmail.com
Secretary	Barbara Clements	01252 614059	barbron@tiscali.co.uk
Treasurer	Peter Forey	01252 613969	peterforey@btinternet.com
Membership Secretary	Alan Denten	01252 329637	alan_denten@yahoo.co.uk
Exhibition Secretary	Desi Mills	01252 811375	
Exhibition Steward Co-ordinator	Ruth Hudson	01252 842152	billnruth@btinternet.com
Workshops & Demonstrations	Audrey Ketcher	01252 622864	avketcher@aol.com
Newsletter Editor	Frances Reed	01252 616748	fleetartnews36@talktalk.net