



APRIL 2017 NEWSLETTER

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR MEMBERSHIP SUBS? SUBS OVERDUE!

WELCOME to new members: Mick Manuel joined a couple of months ago. At the first meeting we welcomed Julia Warner and Steve Hall. Teresa Rogers has also joined and is looking forward to the April meeting.

March evening meeting started the years programme brilliantly. Lynne Davies gave an absorbing demonstration. A self-taught artist she turned professional in 2009.



Using acrylic on large canvases she produces some stunning results using an old decorator's brush on budget canvases.

By scrubbing the paint over a watery paint layer (and over old paintings if necessary!) she manages to achieve a fuzzy but realistic result.

She bought along some large imposing examples of her work but chose to paint a sheep for us on a smaller surface. After drawing the image by hand Lynne used a spray bottle to wet the surface and then a dry brush with thick colour to scrub it in. She paints as she feels and will repaint with a different colour if not happy, always commenting that a lot of 'trial and error' is involved. If texture is needed then polyfilla is amongst the textures she uses.

The end result was an artistic, characterful portrait of a sheep.

Finally Lynn judged the members mini exhibition of animal paintings, announcing the winner to be Jan Hawker's 'Donkeys'. (Freddie Haworth)

April 11th will be the first of two **spring 'Paint-In' sessions at Emery Down**. A good number of members have signed up and paid for these. The idea is for the group to decide how to structure these but the goal is to spend time painting together in a supportive and fun manner. If you were intending to join us and still want to, contact Jan wheat janwheat@mypostoffice.co.uk / 02380282409. Please note the second one is May 9th (not 12th as in an earlier email!)

April 19th evening meeting (usual time of 7.30 start) is **internationally renowned sculptor Mark Swan**, leading a demo on sculpturing, using wax. Look him up on

www.markswan.co.uk and be impressed! In October, Mark will return to us to take a Saturday workshop.

NEW FOREST ARTS FESTIVAL (second year) will be running from 10-25 June. The theme this year is **TREES**. The society is joining in by opening the June 21st meeting to visitors and this will be in the Festival Advertising. This is good advertising for the society and it's a way of testing the waters to greater involvement in the future. The May 17th meeting is a demonstration of Trees and Roots by Lindsey Cole and members are encouraged to think about bringing a related painting to the June meeting for Helen Talbot's critique. If you have a different subject matter painting that you are burning to get Helen's excellent feedback on, that's absolutely fine. In which case, if you also have a 'Trees' related picture that you would care to put at the back of the room as an additional display for visitors to see, please bring it along.

SIR HAROLD HILLER GARDENS EXHIBITION FEBRUARY 2018

The next deadline for this exhibition is 1st July, which includes submitting the title of the exhibition and 5 high resolution images of work that will be in the exhibition to go into Sir Harold Hiller Gardens publicity. Considering the title, we do want to advertise the society but also want all the signage around Romsey to catch peoples' eyes and imaginations. Suggestions to me please. Would you like one of your paintings to be considered by the committee as one of the 5 for the Hiller's publicity? If so, please send a high resolution digital image (300dpi) to me at smithrae@hotmail.com no later than May 18th. The committee meet at the end of May and will decide on the title and images to be sent. It may well be possible to use some of the remaining images in our own publicity, so don't be shy or modest!

CHALLENGE ACHIEVED: in the last AGM Chair's Report, the challenge of greater committee participation was highlighted. We have definitely achieved it this year and I think this is a sign of a healthy society. We have a full complement of 10 people (counting me) on the committee and 5 members who have continued or taken on co-opted roles. Thank you for being so willing to get involved.

Please don't forget the other challenge of significantly **increasing our membership**. Flyers available to give to invited guests to waiver the guest fee on one occasion (until July this year). In later newsletters we will let you know how we are doing with meeting this challenge.

FACEBOOK: our Facebook page was set up about 8 months ago. If you are on Facebook and not joined, please do so! Can we encourage you to post. Not all 'friends' are members of the Society and we need to make it much more alive and advertise the Society and ourselves. Along with our webpage, FACEBOOK attracts people interested in the Society.

Rachael.