



# newsletter

## MARCH 2019

WINCHESTER ART CLUB

### Notes from the Chairman

I was so pleased at the turnout for Peter Foulkes funeral and the tributes paid to an extremely talented man. What a success the pick up from the corridor for the Hospital Exhibition was - well done Tricia for suggesting this! We are still searching for ideas for the Club's centenary this year - we could possibly have a feature in this year's Annual Exhibition catalogue. There is also a competition on the theme to replace the Big Draw this year - see Exhibition Secretary's piece overleaf. I am concerned that the pictures have not been changed for some time in the Marfield House dentist practice. I would be happy to change the paintings, as sales have fallen away to virtually nothing, and it is useful to have another outlet for members' work. I was a little concerned at the empty spaces towards the end of the Hospital Exhibition but it is apparent that the problem of notifying members, collecting, labelling and hanging extra paintings was a step too far. We shall simply have to enjoy spaces with lovely red dots to show sold work! I also want to express my thanks to Irene Dowding for all her help to the Club - something of an unsung heroine - thank you Irene!

*Hilary Archer*

### Secretary

I'm finding it hard to realise that I have been doing this job for a year now. I know there have been a few minor hiccups along the way; but I am learning. The next task is to negotiate the AGM and hopefully produce a coherent set of minutes. After that it is the Hospital Exhibition hand-in, and collating all the entries from on-line submissions and entries on the day into a successful format and produce all the labels. It really does help if you can do your entries on-line, as I can do lot of the work before the actual hand-in. I have a tendency to be slightly erratic and my health has not been so good of late, so I have had occasion to lean on my assistant secretary, Tricia Spink, and she is not that big to have someone like me leaning on her - but I am very grateful for her support!

### Ken Pothecary

**2019  
It is our Centenary!**

**It is not too late to pass on any ideas you may have on how we can celebrate.**

**Please let one of the Committee know your thoughts.**

### Exhibition Secretary

The last **Hospital Exhibition** handed out on 5th January and many thanks go to all who helped, as ever. 24 paintings were sold. This was the first 'new style' handing-out in the gallery corridor and we all thought that it went pretty well. We made ourselves as unobtrusive as possible and thankfully the hospital staff and patients had to do minimal side-stepping to avoid us. Our Spring/Summer Exhibition hands-in on April 13th so there is still time to do new, exciting masterpieces. Note to self!

**Annual Exhibition** - This year - see last Newsletter - is later than our usual slot, running from October 11th to November 17th. We have five whole weeks, including six weekends, so this means that we will have many more rota slots to fill. Please be prepared to help out as much as you can.

**2019 is our Centenary Year** and we feel something should be done to mark such a momentous event. Unfortunately we have received no suggestions from 'the floor' about how to do this, so we have come up with an idea. In 2012 we held a special competition, within the Annual Exhibition, to celebrate the Olympics. We thought that we might do something similar with the theme of 'Centenary'. Not such an easy category as Olympics to illustrate but worth a try! Just for this year only this will mean that we do not hold our customary Big Draw competition.

As you all know, we have limited space in the gallery so we thought that our normal drawing wall could hold our competition entries. Naturally, you can still enter drawings for the Annual Exhibition but they must be included in the normal allowance

of three pieces of work (plus sculpture and/or sketchbooks). The Big Draw will return in 2020!

Speaking of 2020 - the Management at the City Space have very kindly offered us a pre-Christmas slot for our exhibition next year. So, a full 5/6 weeks from mid-November to early January '21. What a fantastic opportunity for sales!! Calm down Sheila, we have this year to deal with first ...

As many of you are aware, 'Creative Crafts' closed down last year after more than 30 years in business. Lyn, its owner, was an enthusiastic supporter of the Club, as a sponsor of one of our prizes for many years and also for hosting a small two-week exhibition of our paintings in her shop following our Annual Exhibition. We were all so sad to see her shop close - and what a loss for the town. The very good news is that Lyn has opened a branch of 'Pullingers Art Shop' within C&H in Winchester. See below and please support Lyn's new enterprise. In the interests of balance - other art supply outlets are available ...

### Sheila Bushnell

#### **Pullingers Art Shop**

We have stores in Kingston, Farnham, Epsom, recently Brighton & NOW WINCHESTER! Our NEW Pullingers Art Shop Concession Store opened within Closs & Hamblin, 8 High Street, Winchester on Monday 18th February - so come along and have a look.

The C&H Winchester Store has three floors of home, haberdashery and craft products, including a coffee shop! You can locate our Pullingers Art Shop on the TOP FLOOR. Here, you will find an extensive range of high-quality Art Supplies at affordable prices for professional artists, students and beginners.

## Publicity Secretary

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Now is your chance to fulfil that resolution to help the Club simply by taking on the Publicity Secretary's role as I step down after five years at the AGM.

If two members are interested then the post is very suitable for sharing. In any event I would be very happy to help out with some of the tasks. It's an important role - I would say that wouldn't I? - which is even more significant in the Club's 100th anniversary year. And so, please give it some thought and do talk to me about what's involved (01962 860564)

*Chris Sealey*

## Courses

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John Radcliffe took over as Courses Secretary last Autumn and soon set up some courses for this year, however, for personal reasons, he has since decided that he will not continue in this role. We are sad that he has decided to stand down but understand his reasons, and would thank him for all the work he has put into setting up the courses in 2019. Other Committee members have temporarily taken over where he left off in order that these courses can take place.

Those of you on email will already have received details, and those who receive communication by post will find this included with this mailing.

The position of Courses Secretary is again vacant and members are asked once again to consider taking on this position, on which further details can be provided on request. Last Autumn's survey on courses showed showed there is a strong demand for them, so

the Club needs to have someone take on this activity. It is an interesting position and you will make a positive contribution to the Club.

## Treasurer

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At last year's AGM I reported a surplus of £1,125.96 in 2017, following a deficit of £72.15 in 2016, however this should be reduced retrospectively by £25.20 due to some late payments, and a further £200 for retrospective payment in lieu of hire of the Learning Rooms for handing-in at the Annual Exhibition, making an adjusted surplus of £900.76 for 2017.

In 2018 we made a surplus of £982.80, slightly lower than I had forecast at the AGM. I have been unable to make a forecast for 2019 since there are a large number of membership fees outstanding which significantly alter the predicted income, however I anticipate that the club will make a similar surplus this year. The measures that the club has put in place to improve its financial position have had the anticipated effect and should continue to do so.

Sales at the Annual Exhibition attract a total commission of 35%, whereas the Hospital Exhibitions are only 10%, yet the sales levels are not dissimilar. The Committee decided to increase the sales commission at the Hospital Exhibitions to 20%, with 10% still being paid to the hospital's Magic Wand Appeal, and the additional 10% paid to the Winchester Hospice Appeal, which should contribute approximately £300 a year to this charity. We trust that members will support this change. As you know, all Hospital Exhibition entry fees also go to the Magic Wand Appeal and this will remain so.

*Simon Churchill*

## Programme Secretary

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I have attempted this year to provide something for everyone. We have demonstrations in pastels, watercolour, acrylics, mixed media and oil painting.

We have to date had a demonstration of pastel work by Graham Oliver and mixed media by Soraya French. Both were well presented and enjoyed by the audience. The audience for Soraya French was fifty four and that was an extremely good turnout.

The rest of the programme will be presented by artists who are familiar to us so I hope that the higher turnout can be maintained.

Last year we started having the single appraisals in the Spring and Autumn. Gerry Smith conducted the Autumn appraisal in October and eighteen paintings were presented. This was a higher number than usual and may well relate to the fact that there was only one Autumn appraisal rather than two as in previous years. That sort of number means that there is only five minutes or so available for each picture and, if that is so on the 20th April, I will arrange for someone to take the pictures down whilst I deliver the new picture to keep things moving. Neal Griffin will be briefed on the timing and system before we start. He is an experienced artist and should be able to cope with whatever we come up with.

In October the appraisal will be undertaken by Maggie Cochran who is a member of the Peninsular Artists based in Lee on Solent. As this is her first appearance for us I will ensure that she is fully briefed to make it an enjoyable experience as I would like her to demonstrate her style of working in the following year.

I am looking for artists to appear next year and would welcome any suggestions.

*Graham Compton*

## Membership Secretary

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Once again we have been asking late payers if they wish to continue to be in our Club and at present we have 248 members, which is down from last year.

As our Treasurer will tell you, it is much more convenient if members pay by direct debit or standing order to retain membership. Otherwise you are at risk of being removed from our list due to not having paid your subscription for this year!

Can I ask you to kindly let me know if you change address, phone number or email so we can keep our records up to date.

*Celia Brown*

### Annual Outing 2019

The annual outing for 2019 is to Tate Britain, Millbank, London on 9th June 2019. The cost is £22 for the coach only. The current exhibition is 'The EY Exhibition, Van Gogh and Britain'. The charge for this exhibition will be £19 (concessions) and £21 for others.

The exhibition brings together 40 works by Van Gogh, and it aims to reveal how he was inspired by Britain and how he inspired British artists.

**The application form for the outing accompanies this mailing.**

