



NEWSLETTER

May/June 2016

Introduction

A flurry of pencils and brushes heralds a busy time of year for the Society. We report on the successful Spring Exhibition, the monthly meetings, the forthcoming workshop and painting day, and the wider links with Open Studios Exhibitions and the Retford Arts Festival.

Spring Exhibition Report

The opening of the Exhibition on 27th April was a busy, buzzing event, with St Swithun's church crowded with guests and members for the Preview. The exhibition attracted a record number of entries with 131 pictures being displayed.

Our Chair of the Society, Margaret Presley, praised the efforts of the numerous members (and in many cases co-opted partners!) who had taken a part in mounting the exhibition. With a high quality and wide range of work, the Exhibition reflected a Society in good health.

Margaret introduced Alastair Murray, Chair of Governors of Thrumpton School, who opened the proceedings. As samples of art from the pupils of Thrumpton School were included in the show, Alastair suggested that these young artists show the potential to continue the strong tradition of art in Retford.

Again, many thanks to all who helped in any way, and in particular to those who were involved with erecting and dismantling the boards and lighting. Thanks also to Daphne Sidney for coordinating the stewarding, Treasurer Wendy Smith, who oversaw the finances, and Sally Telfer for producing the programmes.

The numbers visiting through the 3 weeks of the exhibition were encouraging, especially on Charter Day. Overall, some 648 visitors saw the exhibition. Donations totalled £41.52

There was a healthy number of sales: - 19 framed pictures and 19 unframed were sold, along with 16 craft items. Card Sales came to £238.50

Monthly Meetings/ Demonstrations.

The April meeting at the Post 16 centre was very well attended. Elaine Nash showed a slideshow of her paintings and gave an interesting talk on watercolour skills and techniques.



On 26th May, Claire Botterill will show us how to capture architecture in ink, wax and watercolour, and then on 30th June, John Wakefield treats us to Seascapes and Waves in pastels.

Workshops

Sheila Robertson is the contact for future Workshop events; 01909 476287 or e-mail at sheilar45@hotmail.com.

The next workshop at Clarborough will be on Saturday 25th June when Claire Botterill, as a follow on from her demonstration, will teach how to use wax, watercolours and inks to create pictures. If, in future, you are booked in for a workshop and decide not to attend, then please let Sheila know in good time, as there is usually a waiting list.

Studio Sessions

The Swan Studio will be open for normal sessions, with Life Drawing on Wednesdays from 7.00pm, and informal groups on Tuesday evenings and Friday afternoons.

Painting Day

The painting day is planned for Thursday 25th August, at Newstead Abbey. More details will be sent out nearer the time.

Open Studios and Retford Arts Festival

Late May and June are busy times locally for celebrating art, and many of our members are involved in Open Studios and/or the Retford Arts Festival. The latter takes place over the May Bank Holiday weekend, in venues across Retford, such as St Swithuns, Goodwin Hall, The Bay Tree, the Hub, and Spencer's on the Square.

Open Studios venues with our members include Bassetlaw Museum, Treswell Village hall, Askham, and Pat Carrington's and Carol Eason's studios. There are leaflets and fliers advertising these events, and everyone is welcome.

AM/MP May 2016