



# Sutton Coldfield Society of Artists Newsletter March 2022

## Letter From the President



I hope this finds you well and now that Covid restrictions have been lifted you are looking forward to a more positive and creative year ahead.

Our Spring Exhibition will be held at the Town Hall in May, a week earlier than originally planned and Jean Willis, our Exhibition Secretary, has been busy revising the exhibition schedule and submission form to send out to you. As in previous exhibitions there will not be a selection panel but to ensure that the artwork submitted meets the required standard, as detailed in the revised entry schedule, it will be reviewed at the time of hanging to ensure compliance. Artwork found not to comply will not be hung. Our new committee member Katherine Sawbridge has taken on the role of curator to help with the exhibition standards review and exhibition presentation.

Our independent awards judge this time is Kara Stracken, a professional artist based at Curborough near Lichfield. She will have the difficult task of judging the artwork and allocating the awards for the various categories. Set up and submission of work will be on Friday 6th with the official opening and presentation of awards on Saturday 7th May. Full details are contained in your schedule.

Our programme of Saturday Demos has got off to a good start thanks to Fran Jean who was faced with some last minute changes to the Artists booked. For those of you that missed the demos, I have featured the artists and their paintings in this Newsletter.

The Sunday painting days have been well attended and Chris Bowden has worked hard to book the live models for the day and keep the artistic challenge going.

With Covid restrictions lifted Rachel David, our Outings Secretary, is looking at arranging a trip to Patchings Art Festival in July, so hopefully we can return to this popular venue.

With the Spring Exhibition not far away it would be a good idea to prepare your artwork ready for submission. Details of the Award categories can be found in your 2022 programme.

Be creative and stay safe.

*Geoff Stubbins*

## Sutton Coldfield Art Trail 2022

This year 28 Sutton based artists have signed up for what will be the 6th Art Trail event to be held at nine venues across the Royal Town.

It will be an 'open studio' format as in previous years with residents able to engage with local artists and their work at various venues across Sutton Coldfield.

Many of the artists taking part are SCSA members who enjoy interacting with the public and showcasing their artwork.

The trail will take place between June 11 and 12, so remember to diary the dates so you don't miss it. More information, including a map and examples of the artists amazing artwork can be found on their website [www.suttoncoldfieldarttrail.wordpress.com](http://www.suttoncoldfieldarttrail.wordpress.com)



Artist and member Debi Lane at Gracechurch 2021

# SATURDAY DEMOS

Fran Jean, our programme secretary, has had to deal with last minute cancellations and find Artists at short notice to stand in for our Saturday Demonstrations. Thanks to her efforts we have been fortunate to have three very different, talented and fascinating artists demonstrate at our monthly Saturday Demos covering portraiture in oils, flower painting in water colour and townscape in acrylic.



Martin Harris gave a masterclass in portraiture in oil in January, showing a step by step approach to the techniques required to capture the perfect portrait.



In February Nicky Hunter entertained and informed us of her approach to large floral paintings in watercolour and gave us a fascinating insight into fabric design for the fashion industry.



Our March demo proved to be one of the most entertaining demonstrations yet, with Colin Ross Jack recalling funny anecdotes from his childhood as he painted an acrylic street scene of his family's home in a fishing village in Scotland.

# SCSA SPRING EXHIBITION - CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

## GENERAL CONDITIONS

Honorary Life Members and fully paid Members shall be entitled to submit work for each exhibition. Any work submitted for the exhibition must be original and not a direct copy of the work of any other artist, published photograph or other material. References for work submitted may be taken from published resources, provided the reference is out of copyright or written permission for its use is obtained from the copyright holder. Entries should not have been exhibited in any SCSA Exhibition, actual or virtual, within the last five years. Original artwork produced on a computer or tablet is permissible and should be labelled 1/1 to indicate it is a single print run. Giclee prints and photographs are not acceptable but prints of original work will be accepted as cards for sale.

Any entries which do not meet the Conditions of Entry will not be accepted for exhibition.

## PAINTINGS

Members may submit up to **three framed or box canvas paintings** and a **further three unframed original pictures** which will be exhibited in a browser. **Up to four miniature paintings may also be submitted** (size not to exceed 20cm x15cm including frame).

Entries should be framed and **if in watercolour, textile or pastel, protected by glass.**

Ideally, stretched canvases should be framed but box canvases and large standard canvases will be accepted unframed, providing that the sides are painted and have no visible tacks or staples.

All paintings, including miniatures, should be securely strung within one third of the top of the frame or canvas and be ready to be hung at exhibition.

Unframed paintings in the browsers should be mounted in exhibition quality mounts and protected by cellophane.

Size should be no larger than 50cm x 60cm, including mount.

**All paintings should be clearly labelled on the back of the picture to show the title of the work, the medium used, the name of the artist, and the price.**

## 3D ARTWORK (SCULPTURE, POTTERY AND CRAFTS)

**Members may submit up to six 3D pieces.** Although some display tables can be provided, members are advised to provide their own display plinths for their work. Members are reminded that business cards should not be displayed at the exhibition.

## GREETING CARDS

**Members may submit a maximum of 25 greetings cards for sale.** They should be cellophane wrapped and clearly marked with the artist's name and price (in multiples of £1 only).

Please note that cards should only be displayed in the SCSA's display stand and that individual stands, racks or boxes will not be accepted.

*Your Society wants to encourage Members to exhibit their artwork, so if you are unsure about any of the above conditions of entry, need help and/or advice about preparing your work for exhibition, please don't hesitate to contact the Exhibition Secretary Jean Willis by email on [SCSAExhibit@outlook.com](mailto:SCSAExhibit@outlook.com) or any of our committee members who will only be too pleased to help.*

## CLAY WORKSHOP

As part of a fund raising exercise for the RBSA, Petra Rohr-Rouendaal held a clay workshop, with the topic of birds, at their gallery in St Pauls Square last month. It was well attended and a number of our members also signed up for the workshop, which proved to be fun and productive session with all the group sculpturing bird figures in clay. Petra has since fired the clay pieces at home in her kiln and was impressed with the standard of work, considering many in the group had not worked clay before. The next stage is to paint or glaze the bird figures and fire them again.



## **NEWSLETTER ARTICLES**

**Remember to send in items of interest for the Newsletter about your artwork or art events that you are taking part in, we would love to hear from you.**

## **MERE GREEN ART GROUP**

**Looking for somewhere to paint? The Mere Green Art Group has resumed its meetings on a Wednesday night 7.30pm -9.30pm at the Community Centre Mere Green. So if you would like to paint and enjoy the company of fellow artists in an informal setting why not come along and give it a try.**

**For more information contact Geoff Stubbins 0121 323 2694**