



NEWSLETTER

Spring 2021

[Editor: Carole Head]

Zoom AGM - Friday 5th February 2021

There is no question that this has been the most extraordinary year for everyone because of the Coronavirus and as a result the FCSA AGM had to be held on-line using Zoom as the Society had not been able to meet in person since March of last year. Unfortunately, this meant that members who were not familiar with Zoom were unable to attend. However, there were 32 members on-line to review the past year and to set the society on course for the coming year. The Minutes of the AGM have been sent out in a separate email.

What follows is an outline of what was said together with some Zoom screenshots to give members who could not attend an indication of what it was like. This is what people could see on their screen. Everyone was muted while the speakers were giving their reports and then members were encouraged to give their views.



An email has gone out to the membership to ensure everyone gets the opportunity to express an opinion on things such as the cost of demonstrations and the theme for the Annual Exhibition.

Chairman's Report – Peter Tuitt



Peter began the meeting by dealing with Matters Arising from last year's AGM and explained that all the studio dates, demonstrations, exhibitions and workshops that had been planned could not take place because of Covid19. It is impossible to say when the Society will be able to meet again at the studio.

Peter went on to outline how the committee had adapted plans and ideas to meet the situation.

- New website – thanks to the hard work of Olga Salgado and her husband Steve Hammett the new website came online in perfect time to provide the best means to keep in touch with members and to showcase members artwork.
- On-line exhibitions - The On-line Lockdown Exhibition attracted 1100 visits and the Christmas Paintings Exhibition attracted a further 300. These exhibitions also resulted in the sale of seven paintings. There is a Spring Exhibition planned for 1st March to 1st May. The deadline for submissions to gallery@fcsaonline.org.uk is 15th February.
- Zoom demonstrations - There have been several well attended Zoom demonstrations and the programme for the coming year includes demonstration from artists who are prepared to give either face to face or Zoom demonstrations depending on the situation at the time of their booking.
- The Annual Exhibition – Peter has booked High Cross Church in the hope that it will be possible to hold this on Friday 16th and Saturday 17th July with the Opening Evening on Thursday 15th July.
- Phyllis Tuckwell Brush with Art Group – Liz Seward has donated one of her framed paintings for the Raffle this year. The money raised will go to The Brush with Art Group. It is a way of keeping in touch with our local community and helping others. In 2019 the Raffle raised £234.82.
- Exhibition Display Panels – these are in urgent need of upgrading to comply with Health & Safety regulations. Peter has ordered new connectors and brackets from J & R Fabrications, Wokingham, which was the company that manufactured the originals over ten year ago. Terry Ralph was the designer, and he has kindly agreed to provide a booklet to describe how to put the display panels together.

Honorary Secretary's Report – Val Painter



As events of 2020 started to unfold the committee concentrated on developing the new website with committee meetings via Zoom. The programme of events was re designed to meet the new circumstances with on-line exhibitions and demonstrations. How to pay for these events involved considerable discussion by the committee and remains an issue that will be covered further during the course of the AGM. Val ended her report by asking members to get in touch with her if there are ideas or issues that should be put on the Agenda for coming committee meetings.

Honorary Treasurer's Report – Lesley Kilner



Please see the AGM Minutes and the copy of the Accounts already circulated to members for specific details of the monies involved. The main concerns outlined in Lesley's report were the increased cost of demonstrations, the lack of income due to the studio closure and the likelihood of an increase in rental should the time come when the Society can meet again. Postage and printing costs have reduced by taking the Newsletter onto the website at News@fcsaonline.org.uk and by communicating with members by email. In summary; 2020 has been weathered with a small trading profit but the outlook for 2021 is uncertain and ways need to be found to mitigate the increases in expenditure that are expected.

Membership Secretary's Report – John Stacey



At the end of the year the membership was 87. Seven members have left for various reasons and six people have not renewed. The membership currently stands at 76 members. The Surrey Heath Show and the Annual Exhibition are good recruiting events but as these events are in doubt an extra effort will be needed to bring the membership up again.

Vice Chairman – Sue Whitehead



Sue was tasked with giving the meeting a rundown of what was planned in the Programme for 2021/22.

The next Zoom Demonstration is on Friday 19th March with Rick Holms on Boats in Pastel.

On Friday 16th April Rebecca le Tourneau will take a Zoom Drawing Workshop.

On Friday 7th May Phil Biggs will demonstrate Landscapes in watercolour, this is also likely to be via Zoom.

These three Zoom demonstrations will be free to members and £5.00 to non-members. It has yet to be determined what will happen regarding payments for demonstrations after the summer. This will be dependent on the result of the survey that has been sent out to the membership

Hopefully, after the summer there is a chance that the demonstrations will be able to take place face to face in the studio once again.

It is also hoped that there can be a Christmas Party again too which should be bigger than ever to make up for the loss of the one last year.

Election of Executive Committee:

The whole committee agreed to stand again and were duly elected. No-one came forward when the meeting was asked if there was anyone who might like to join the committee this year. If this is something you might like to consider, please to get in touch with a member of the committee who are:

Chairman:	Peter Tuitt
Vice Chairman:	Susan Whitehead
Treasurer:	Lesley Kilner
Honorary Secretary:	Val Painter
Membership Secretary:	John Stacey
Webmaster:	Olga Salgado
Committee Member:	Marie Bunce
Newsletter Editor:	Carole Head

The Heritage Gallery

There are currently two exhibitions of FCSA members' paintings at the Heritage Gallery. The permanent one upstairs has been there for some time and this should be renewed as soon as Covid19 restrictions allow. The Treasured Trees Exhibition in the Museum section of the Gallery opened briefly in 2020 but the Gallery has been closed to the public for the whole of this year. The paintings that are in that display will also have to be collected in due course. To be reminded what is there follow this link to the website:

<https://fcsaonline.org.uk/treasured-trees-museum-exhibition/>

FCSA Website

<https://fcsaonline.org.uk>

Gallery

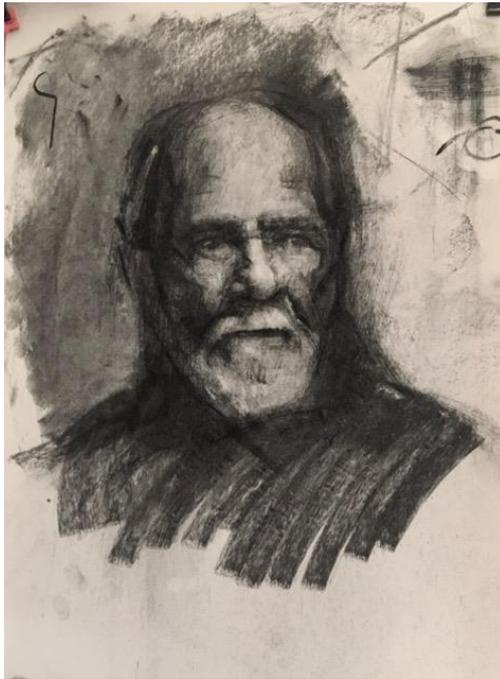
A full write up of any demonstrations that have taken place can be found on the website under the Gallery tab on the Home Page. This tab includes the Members Gallery and Past Exhibitions as well.

- **Members Gallery** –includes the names of members who have submitted paintings to the website together with a gallery of their paintings. <https://fcsaonline.org.uk/past-exhibitions/>
- **Past Workshops and Demonstrations** – this is where the write ups for the Zoom demonstrations can be found and will include write ups of workshops too. <https://fcsaonline.org.uk/past-exhibitions/>
- **Past Exhibitions** – this is where all the paintings that have been so diligently uploaded for the Lockdown, Christmas and Past Exhibitions can be found. <https://fcsaonline.org.uk/past-exhibitions/>

News

The News tab is where this Newsletter will be saved and where past Newsletters can be found. The cost of paper, printing and postage has become unsustainable and the Coronavirus Lockdowns have meant most people have become very familiar with using email and the internet for communicating with friends and family and for information. It makes sense and is eco-friendly for FCSA to make the Newsletter electronic from now on.

Writeup to Mick McNicholas Charcoal Demonstration



The write up for this demonstration can be found on the website and by following this link:

<https://fcsaonline.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/McNicholas-Charcoal-Demo..pdf>

Mick McNicholas runs the Wokingham Life Drawing Society with untutored Portrait and Life Drawing sessions most weeks. Information about these sessions can be found at the end of the write up.

Art on-line

Many art societies have done as FCSA and now use their websites to display their work in online exhibitions. Most also have a Facebook page which can be searched for using their name in the search function. This is the link to ours: <https://www.facebook.com/Frimley-Camberley-Society-of-Arts-1909783245974936>

More local and creative arts organisations that might be of interest can be found here: <https://www.morearts.org.uk/creativelist.html>

STOP PRESS: LOCKDOWN DREAMS won the vote for the Annual Exhibition 2021 Themed Competition
£5 for Zoom demos - 25 members voted yes agreed and passed.
£6 for Face-to-Face demos - 24 members voted yes agreed and passed.
Commission of 10% on sales resulting from on-line exhibitions.

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In Memoriam – Three much loved members of the Society passed away recently. Brian Richardson, Alan Milne and Valerie Brooks. They will be fondly remembered and greatly missed.