

# RETFORD ART SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

## FEBRUARY 2022

Hello to all 2020/2021 Retford Art Society members!

A belated Happy New Year to you all and fingers crossed that this year we will be back to functioning again after two rather bleak years.

Hopefully many of you have continued to practice your art and are now raring to get back into the swing of things.

### **The Survey**

Many thanks to those of you who completed the RAS survey at the end of last year. It was great to have your thoughts, suggestions and comments on how the society functions and this will help it to shape activities and decisions in the near future. The survey results were sent out to members recently so hopefully you could all read them.

### **The AGM**

The AGM was held on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> January and was attended by only 13 members, including the Chair and Vice Chair.

Sadly, Mick Thomas has decided to stand down as our Chair, as has Margaret Presley our Vice Chair.

It was unfortunate that their time in office was during the last two difficult years and so business has not be as usual and no live exhibitions have been held. Many thanks go to Mick and Margaret for keeping the society going, for Mick's regular newsletters and for Mick's redecoration of the Swan Studio. They are both happy to continue to be members of the society however and Mick will still be organising the St Swithuns exhibitions.

Unfortunately we now have no Chair or Vice Chair. These posts remain vacant so if anyone is up for a challenge please let Jill, the Membership Secretary or Paul the Secretary know.

### **The Committee**

We do however have a committee of seven members – namely Paul Straker (Secretary) , Penny Murch (temporary Treasurer), Denise Harrington (Co- Treasurer), Margaret Harrod, Anne Rains, Ann Everitt and Jill Walker (Membership Secretary)

We still have 4 vacancies if anyone is interested in joining the committee.

The committee aim to run the society as a group with a rolling chair and minute taker but calling upon other members who have offered their help with various activities.

We are working on a plan for this year for reigniting exhibitions, life drawing, sketching, painting days and a number of workshops and demos. We may start some new activities in line with your suggestions so watch this space.

### **Important dates for your diaries**

Mick has already booked St Swithun's Church for our Spring and Autumn exhibitions – fingers crossed!

**Spring exhibition** - 28<sup>th</sup> April - 14<sup>th</sup> May (Thurs, Fris and Sats) – admission day Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> April and Preview evening 27<sup>th</sup> April

**Autumn exhibition** - 27<sup>th</sup> October - 12<sup>th</sup> November (Thurs, Fris and Sats)– admission day Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> October and Preview evening 26<sup>th</sup> October

More information will follow in the next newsletter

**P.T.O.**

## **Subscriptions**

Having had a subscription free 2021, it is now time to restart the membership fee which will remain at £30. Please can you complete the attached application form for membership for 2022 and either send it to or leave it at the Swan with a cheque or cash or send Jill the form by e mail and pay online. See attached membership form for details.

Yes, we now have online banking for those of you who wish to use this option!

Just a reminder that you need to be a signed up member in order to exhibit in April.

## **Membership**

We hope to grow our membership this year so please encourage any potential new members to join us.

## **The Swan**

Use it or lose it....we plan to get back to using the Swan so long as we can do this safely so if any of you wish to use it please contact one of the committee.

Following a recent committee meeting it was agreed to start opening up in a limited way.

### **Regular painting sessions**

These will start at the Swan on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2 - 4 and from that date will be on Tuesdays evenings from 7 – 9 and Friday afternoons from 2 - 4.

These will be for members only

### **Life, Figure and Portrait painting sessions**

We would like to trial 4 sessions at the Swan comprising one session of clothed figure drawing, one of portrait drawing and 2 of life drawing unclothed. These will be limited at first to 6 members only so that participants can be spaced out. The 4 sessions will cost £25 and need to be pre-booked and paid for in advance. The start date for these weekly sessions will be Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> March.

Please e mail RAS (address below) to express your interest or ring Anne Rains on 01427 880604

### **Art Discussion Group**

The RAS survey showed that there was interest in starting a discussion group. Is anyone willing to develop this new venture or be involved in the running of it? Again please e mail to express interest or speak to one of the committee.

RAS contact e mail is [retfordartsociety@yahoo.com](mailto:retfordartsociety@yahoo.com)

Website address is [retford-art-society.co.uk](http://retford-art-society.co.uk)

N.B. In future the minutes of committee meetings will be put on the website.

Happy painting!

Your RAS Committee