

The *Easel*

THE NEWS & VIEWS OF THE BROMLEY ART SOCIETY



Bromley Art Society bringing artists together since 1947

NOVEMBER 2017

Editor's Sketch

Welcome to the November 2017 edition of *the Easel*. Another year over already! After being editor of *the Easel* for 4 years, this will be my last edition. This means that the BAS committee will be looking for a new editor early next year. The next edition is due in March 2018, after the AGM. If anyone is interested in taking on this role, please contact Adrian Fowle, our Chairman. For further information about producing *the Easel*, please contact me.

I would like to thank all those contributors who have taken the time to write articles and send pictures for inclusion in *the Easel* during the past four years, your support has been much appreciated.

BAS members are reminded that the annual subscription becomes due on January 1st 2018. The renewal form is on page 11 of this edition.

In the meantime I wish you all a very happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year in 2018.

Ailsa Chapman

Marjorie McClure

Bromley Art Society committee members visit Marjorie McClure. Below left: Penny, Liz and Chris meet staff at Marjorie McClure. Below right: Chris gives the Head the cheque donation.



Albert Lynch: 1917 - 2017

In January this year we were pleased to present Albert Lynch with Honorary Membership of Bromley Art Society in anticipation of his Centenary.

Sadly Albert died on 2nd June, just 12 days before his 100th birthday. However his daughter Margaret tells me that receiving the Hon. Mem. meant a lot to her father and he was delighted with it and enjoyed telling his visitors about it.

Albert joined the BAS in 1989 and was a landscape artist for much of his life, using mainly oil but also watercolour and acrylic.

He lived alone and had many friends and outside interests. He was very musical and played piano and sang solo and with a group, lately to entertain 'the old folk'.

Our Editor Ailsa and I visited Albert in January this year and enjoyed seeing his paintings and hearing about his very active life, including his WW2 service, his marriage in 1945, his daughter, and working with the Post Office. (see *Easel* March 2017) He had a very lively and cheerful personality, a great sense of humour and was interested in everything going on in the world around him.

Brenda Sayburn



A word from our Chairman

Dear Friends, I am sorry that personal circumstances have meant that I have not been as active as your Chair as I had hoped - especially in BAS's 70th year. We did have a successful competition to celebrate this, on the subject of *Past and Future* - although a burst water main stopped us judging and awarding as originally intended. Well done to Jules Pew as winner, and Julie Collins as a close runner up! I thought the exhibition of the entries looked very good. I asked you for feedback on this and I got two responses - one person liked the uniform size, but not the restriction of content. The other liked the uniform theme but not the restriction on size!

Kate Ubornyak, our programme organiser, has a novel idea for our Christmas event on Friday 1st December. Details will follow shortly, but this *Easel* includes notice of the need to buy tickets, to help us with the catering. We hope you will renew your membership fee at the same time. There will be an exhibition at St Andrews Church in Burnt Ash Lane that same weekend, the details have already been circulated.

My technical notes following the last 2 demonstrations, which were really scribbles on the back of an envelope, have proved very popular. I find the science behind paints and so on to be fascinating and I think this is an area we might develop for BAS.

Your committee is contemplating other changes. The Wednesday morning session at Ripley is less well attended than it once was. We would like to see it used more widely. Please give it a go or tell us why you don't want to. Julie Collins runs those.

We have taken the first steps towards a new web site to replace my rather tired solo effort, and we will link this to *Facebook* and other platforms. We are becoming increasingly digital - please help us get our message out on social media platforms, even if you have to kidnap the grandchildren to do so. Zsuzsanna Pataki, our publicity mogul, is particularly keen on *Nextdoor*.

It is not long now until our AGM at which two of our committee members will step down - Brenda Sayburn as membership secretary and Ailsa Chapman as editor of *The Easel*. I would like to pay tribute to them, and also to the other committee members who have supported me this

year. We think we have found a new membership secretary, but we can always use more help.

Our 'First Friday' meeting on 1st December will be our usual festive affair and will include some communal painting activity. Details of that later. We need to know the numbers of people who will attend, both for the catering and the entertainment. As last year, there will be a £10 charge to cover this. We won't be sending tickets out in advance though.

I should be really grateful if you would send this to Brenda as soon as possible. We are not putting the membership fees up, so you could save yourself some trouble and send her £40 to cover next year's membership and this year's party together. Please, please, please make sure you send her details of your name, address, email and telephone, and particularly if you have changed your email address. We are increasingly becoming a digital only society as regards communicating with our members - Most of us still value the messy, wet stuff for the actual art though. Please send your cheque and details to: The Membership Secretary, Bromley Art Society 135 Petts Wood Road, Petts Wood, Orpington, BR5 1JY.

I do hope I will see many of you at the Christmas Party or the exhibition, but if not, Merry Christmas and A Painterly New Year.

Adrian Fowle, Chairman

Congratulations to Jules Pew and Julie Collins, both of them winners of our 'Past and Future' art competition at the Ripley Summer Exhibition. They each received a prize of £100 to spend on art materials.



Left: 'The Pre Raphaelites', by Jules Pew. Below: 'Little Feet', by Julie Collins.



BAS exhibits at St. Mary's, Bromley

Over the weekend of the 13-15 October the Society exhibited at St Mary's, College Road, Bromley alongside the Church's own Music Festival. Musical performances took part continually over the 3 days in addition to a Saturday night concert and choral evensong. We were able to fill the church with a wide variety of artworks in many styles and media and were also able to give space to the crafts people to exhibit. Those stewarding were rewarded by listening to music whilst consuming tea and cakes galore.

Although sales were disappointing there were many compliments on the quality of the work and exhibition. For the first time we were able to take payments by debit and credit card – and in fact would probably have lost at least one sale if we didn't have it!

We are now hoping for a good response to our next exhibition booked for the weekend of 2nd and 3rd December at St Andrew's Burnt Ash Lane.

Deborah Masters



Plein Air Locations

I have recently started to sketch & paint South London, as there are many interesting places which don't require much more travel than a bus or two but still provide plenty of challenges. So this is possibly the first of an occasional series of locations I have found interesting and as I don't know Bromley that well I would be interested in hearing other recommendations.

Warning: though details were correct when I visited please check out the site yourself before making a trip in case they have changed.

Avery Hill Winter Gardens, Eltham

A kind of shabby chic version of the Kew palm house. The rather grand (if now rather dilapidated) conservatory of an Edwardian magnate who made his money from guano. A large glasshouse with some rather spectacular plants just calling out to be painted or drawn and a white marble (lascivious) nymph. Could be a good option for winter sketching. The park itself has other opportunities including some mature trees, a small formal garden and the outside of the glasshouse.

Practicalities:

If you are driving it looks like it is students only but persevere. There is pay and display parking (not too expensive).

This is open Monday to Sunday 10am to 12pm and 1pm to 4pm (closed on Christmas Day, Boxing Day, and New Year's Day).

There is a café in the park.

Loos – I didn't venture in but they didn't look too inviting.

Nearby – you are a short drive from Eltham high street or Eltham Palace
https://www.royalgreenwich.gov.uk/directory_record/3756/avery_hill_park

Greenwich Park & Island Gardens

Endless opportunities for painting and sketching – mature trees, the flowergarden, panoramic view over London, a rose garden, the Rangers House, the market etc. etc....

If you feel like the challenge of drawing the Naval College from across the Thames take the DLR to Island Gardens and walk down to the river. There are a number of other river views within a short walk. There were ▶

◀ a number of cafes and pubs in the area and after attempting the view I was in need of a drink,

Practicalities:

Parking in Greenwich Park is mostly pay and display with a 2 hour time limit but if you are there at the weekend I found some free parking along the Maze Hill side of the park. I understand there is also limited opportunities in front of the Rangers House. Obviously the park is well served by public transport.

The Pavilion café in the park is a good stop if the weather turns. Plenty of loos.

Greenwich is not short of places to eat and I would also recommend the rehung paintings in the Queens House and if you are down there, it's a good excuse to get a river boat back up into town.





Beckenham Place Park

If you are a golfer probably best not to read any further. The golf course is closed and the park has recently won funding for a major renovation including reinstating some of the original 18th century features including rebuilding some of the buildings damaged by vandalism. In the meantime the park is huge and has great possibilities for sketching, particularly of the mature trees and formal gardens – in spring it also has a good display of bluebells – and all without the danger of being hit by a stray golf ball. What's not to like.

Practicalities:

There is a café, free parking and loos in the mansion house. Beckenham is reasonably close (c20 minute walk or short bus ride) with probably better opportunities if you are looking for a lunch stop.

The park isn't particularly well served by public transport - the 54 bus runs past the entrance and Beckenham Hill station is close but it does have plenty of free parking in front of the mansion house.

<https://www.lewisham.gov.uk/inmyarea/openspaces/parks/beckenham-place-park/Pages/default.aspx>

Deborah Masters



Bromley Art Society bringing artists together since 1947

Honorary Committee Members

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Vacant

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Ailsa Chapman

(vacant after this edition)
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Membership of Bromley Art Society

Membership of Bromley Art Society commences on 1st January each year. FEES for 2018 - Per person £30, Student (under 23) £10. Membership Secretary - for contact details see above.

Membership includes receiving *The Easel* 3 times a year, monthly meetings to enjoy super demonstrations and professionally delivered illustrated talks, plus invitations to show your work at our exhibitions.

Bromley Art Society is where friendships may be cultivated, especially at the weekly workshops at Ripley Arts Centre held on Wednesdays. Our monthly meetings usually take place at 8.00 pm on the first Friday of each month (except January and August), at Ripley Arts Centre, 24 Sundridge Avenue, Bromley, BR1 2PX, phone: 020 8464 5816.

Please visit www.bromleyartsociety.org.uk for further information.

Bromley Art Society Membership Renewal

Subscriptions for 2018 are due on 1st January.

Please send your cheque, payable to Bromley Art Society to:-

The Membership Secretary, 135 Petts Wood Road, Petts Wood, BR5 1JY

Membership Fee per person £30

Full Time Students (under 23) £10

Name.....

Address.....

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Telephone no.....

Email.....

Please respond by January 1st 2018



