LAS NEWSLETTER JULY 2016

Owing to the recent calamitous events in Lechlade our AGM this year was held at a new venue. Thirty three members came to the Long Room at the back of the New Inn on the evening of 14 June. The event was somewhat shorter than normal and the Ken Howard DVD will be shown at another time.

Our chairman Mike Lowe announced that he would be standing down this year due to family commitments and I am sure you would like me to thank Mike for his hard work during his term of office – thank you Mike and all our best wishes. We hope that you will still be a keen member of the Society and continue to exhibit your paintings with us.

We have been advised by Val, our Treasurer, that there are some members who have still to renew their membership which is due by the 1st of July. Come on folks, we urgently need funds to replace all the equipment lost in the fire! The most time-saving method of payment for you and Val would be by Standing Order but we are quite happy to receive your cheque if that is more convenient for you. Standing Order forms are available at the Thursday Group meetings, or just contact Brian or Val for a form.

We are enclosing the Application Forms and Rules for our exhibition in August which has had to be revised. This year we will be holding the exhibition in the Long Room thanks to some brilliant negotiating by Sue Moir with Nick and his son Simon, the owners of the New Inn. Since the venue is somewhat smaller this year, entries will be limited to two framed and four unframed exhibits per member although buyers will be able to purchase and take away their pictures on the day. This means that if you sell a picture you will be able to hang a further picture in its place. There will be several changes to the rules this time so please read the additional letter of instructions carefully.

The hanging fee for all the exhibits this year will be donated by the Society to the Lechlade Community Fund which is contributing to the support of local societies. The good thing to come out of all this is that the Hall, when it is rebuilt will be upgraded considerably to reflect the increasing requirements and facilities needed for an ever increasing population – so something to really look forward to.

Since we are also focusing on raising funds to replace our equipment lost in the fire, card sales will be restricted to only those produced by the Society using images donated by many members: a huge thank you for the response and we now have all we need.

Twenty two members came to the Painting Day at Buscot Park generously provided and hosted by Lord Faringdon himself who conducted us around the Gardens and the House. He proved to be an absolute mine of information and we were entertained and amused by his knowledge and humour. The rest of the day, thanks to the reasonable weather, was spent painting and sketching around the gardens and grounds. It was a wonderful day: a real treat enjoyed by everyone.

Our next event will be on Thursday July 7th at 10 am in Coleshill when our Projects Manager Bob Marchant will host a Painting Day which will feature a guided tour of a fully functioning watermill, a trip round a replica bunker which was home to Churchill’s Secret Army during World War 2 and some very interesting old farm buildings - look out for the radio station!. Plenty of inspiring things to sketch and paint! Coleshill also has a lovely walled organic garden where we can paint. Coleshill was also the home of George Martin, the Beatles’ manager who is buried in the local churchyard. We are meeting Bob at 10 am in the Estate Yard which is a National Trust property, so follow the signs for the Estate Yard once you are in the village. It is an all-day affair so bring a packed lunch or alternatively you can use the local pub or the community shop and cafe which are reasonably priced. Don’t worry if the weather is wet because there are plenty of covered areas where we can paint. Bob has advised us however to wear trousers!

We have been told by the Trustees that the Memorial Hall will take about two years to rebuild and reinstate and fundraising will be necessary to supplement the insurance cover. In the interim it is hoped that we will be holding our various events in the Pavilion, once it is repaired: it should be available in time for our September demonstration.

**Please send your membership subscriptions in all haste to Val Mackenzie. You can download a form from our website www.lechladeartsociety.co.uk. Remember our Exhibition Rules state that only fully paid up members can submit paintings for the Exhibition.**

Sharon Ellis

Hon. Chair