LAS NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2016

We held a somewhat smaller scale Annual Exhibition last week owing to the recent demise of the Memorial Hall as our venue. Nevertheless, I have to report that the smaller venue proved to be a great success! The exhibition, in the Long Room at the New Inn attracted 520 visitors over the course of the four days of its duration! Several factors, more than likely, contributed to this: the wonderful weather, the Bank Holiday and the proximity of the pub being some of them!

Sharon Ellis welcomed the members and their guests to the Preview on Friday evening. She reported the sad news of the death of one of our long-standing members, Ron Needham. She said, “Many of you will remember Ron Needham and his wife Maureen who were loyal members of the Society. Ron was our Chairman for a while and served on the committee for a number of years, ably assisted by Maureen. Ron passed away on August 5th: He will be missed by all those who knew him for his knowledge, integrity and dry wit – he was a real gentleman and a great asset to the Society and the town”.

The exhibition was opened by the Lechlade Mayor, Steve Trotter, who gave the guests and members an update on the progress of the Memorial Hall rebuild. He said that the plan was to rebuild bigger and better to cater for the increase in the local population and the need for improved facilities taking that into account. He thanked the Society for their donation of the Hanging fees which raised £500 for the Town Fund and a cheque for this amount was presented to him by Sharon Ellis, the LAS Chairman. Mr Trotter then formally opened the exhibition.

We have a “provisional” figure from Val, our Treasurer for income from the exhibition and it is quite likely that we will have exceeded the success of last year in spite of having fewer exhibits (due to limitations of space). We’ll know for sure when the various invoices are received. For those artists who sold exhibits, your payment will be sent out promptly and you may very well have received it already!

You can appreciate that since exhibits were mainly taken away on the day they were sold, voting for the Patron’s Award wasn’t quite so straightforward since in theory we had a different display each day and so we will not be awarding a cash prize this year. However, I wouldn’t want to take away from artist, the kudos of being the “winner”, and the Custodian of the coveted Patron’s Award for a year. Many congratulations to Ann March with her winning exhibit entitled St John’s Lock.

Card sales at the exhibition were really brisk. Many thanks to Bob Marchant for organising the production of the cards from members’ donated images. The Printer has suggested that we could produce Christmas cards in the same way. If you have any suitable Christmassy images you would like to donate to our “replacement of equipment” fund, please contact Bob, sending him a j.peg of your image to marchantrambler@gmail.com.

The Thursday group organiser Sue Moir, has asked me to let you know that the committee has decided that it would be preferable for you to leave your pets at home on Thursdays!

FRAMEMAKERS of Cirencester are offering all LAS members 10% off all readymade mounts and frames and 30% off tailor-made frames. www.framemakersgalleries.co.uk

Lastly, I hope that you receive this letter in time for our next demonstration on Tuesday 13th September at **2.00 pm** in the **Pavilion** when Caroline Chappell will be demonstrating “Mixed Media in the Landscape”. Bear in mind that part of your annual subscription funds our demos, so come and get your money’s worth!

Hope to see you there.

**Sharon Ellis**

**POSTSCRIPT – IMPORTANT!**

At the time of writing our artist booked for Tuesday 13th will, through no fault of her own, will not be able to demonstrate. We are looking for a replacement and are confident that we should be able to replace Caroline. However our woes don’t finish there! Although every effort has been made to get the Pavilion opened and functional there is a possibility that we will be short of chairs, they are on order but the delivery date may be too late for our booking. Therefore if you intend to come to the demonstration on the 13th:-

1. Please keep in touch and check that we have been successful in getting a replacement for Caroline. You can do this by-

A] Checking at the Monday Club on 11th

B] Looking on the LAS website

C] Checking for an email that will be sent to all members on Monday 12th

D] Phoning 01367 252540 on Monday 12th

1. Dust off those summer chairs and have them ready to bring on Tuesday13th - Just in case!