

Rowlands Castle Painting Society Newsletter
Winter 2023/2024



1. R.C.P.S Exhibition November 18th & 19th



This years exhibition was yet another great success helped by the the collaboration with the Rowlands Castle W.I Winter Fair. Visitors were able to go from the exhibition to the small hall to have tea or buy Christmas items from WI and WI visitors came in to view the exhibition, The tea was beautifully served with china table service.

We had over 400 visitors who viewed nearly 150 paintings and folios. 22 paintings were sold and cards were as popular as ever. The tombola is always popular and raised nearly £200.00 (a record)

Well done to Edward Girard for his Titanic picture which won best in show as voted for by the public!



Financially the exhibition did well, hanging fees were £252, paintings and folios and cards sold amounted to £1725 making £172.50 commission, and the tombola took in £194 better than ever. Hall costs for the weekend were £410, giving an overall profit for the society of £208.

The most important thing about the exhibition however was the wonderful friendly atmosphere, helped by the stewards and others who welcomed visitors into the hall. This makes the event more than just a sale, it makes it memorable and fun for visitors, helpers and artists.

Thankyou to Martin Gebbett and Edward Girard for taking the lead in such a great well run event, and thanks to all those who volunteered to steward and those who organised the hanging and handing in and out process, and Barbara and her tombola helpers.



2. R.C.P.S Christmas Party

The Christmas Party was as usual a fun evening. Sally and Andy Williamson hosted an excellent and entertaining quiz and Father Christmas (Charles Howard) surprised everyone with a sack of goodies.



Thanks to Jan and Lois for organising the buffet and drinks.

The competition for holiday painting was won by John Davis, and the photograph on the theme of doorway was won by Barbara Wood (her picture of a toilet doorway took everyone's fancy) and Christmas card was won by Pauline Davis.



As usual our patron Paddy Holmes gave out the trophies, and Barbara organised an excellent raffle.

3. Winter programme so far.

Lorraine Boyes has organised an excellent winter programme so far this year, which has included professional demonstrations by Sharon Hurst, Sue Cooper and member demonstration by Yvonne Bromley.

As you may know Lorraine Boyes has now stepped down from this role and retiring from the committee after a number of years of organising the programme for the society, we are very grateful for all the hard work she put in.



4. RCPS online and promotional information

Martin Gebbett continues to update the R.C.P.S website , and Sandra Ellis has set up a Rowlands Castle Painting Society Facebook page to help reach new members and updates of what has been happening, so if you are on facebook you can follow the page and like, comment or share it on your feed to help advertise what we do.

Pauline Davis has been doing an excellent job getting pictures and news items into local publications, but would like someone to take over from her, so have a chat to Gill or Pauline if you would be interested in this.

5. Art equipment for sale.

There will be some art equipment for sale at the AGM meeting on 26th March, the art items have been given to R.C.P.S to sell to members by the family of a member who has sadly passed away , and any monies raised will go to the Prostrate Society charity,

6. Tribute to Julie Anderson by Yvonne Bromley

When I joined the R.C.P.S a few years ago, Julie was one of the first of many friendly faces I was met with and she very quickly put me at ease as a newcomer to the group. We very soon became friends outside of the society and it was a privilege and pleasure to work with Julie more recently in curating the exhibition for the Doctor's surgery in Rowlands Castle village. Despite various health issues , Julie always managed to remain cheerful and upbeat with a fun sense of humour, which made her really good company,

She was a very modest but gifted watercolour artist, as we all know from her lovely work that she produced over the years for the Silver Cup and exhibition events.

Julie's work on display at the surgery was very popular indeed with the locals and her delightful bird paintings were particularly admired and sought after.

It is with a great sense of sadness that I find myself writing about Julie having left us so abruptly and unexpectedly, but this quote from a poem by Thomas Campbell best describes my feelings-

"To live in hearts we leave behind is not to die..."

I believe Julie will continue to live on in many hearts.

Yvonne Bromley.