



The Sketch

The newsletter of the
Cambridge Drawing Society

Number 2 March 2021

WELCOME

to the second of our occasional newsletters designed to keep Members and Friends in touch during the Covid epidemic

OUR NEW ON-LINE SELLING EXHIBITION

The CDS is delighted to announce that the Society is now ready to stage its first on-line selling exhibition for members.

This exhibition will run from 12th April to the 23rd May (six weeks).

What you need to do between now and the deadline for entries: Sunday 28th March, if you are planning to exhibit:

▶ Complete your registration on-line. www.cambridgedrawingsociety.org

Read through the members rules.

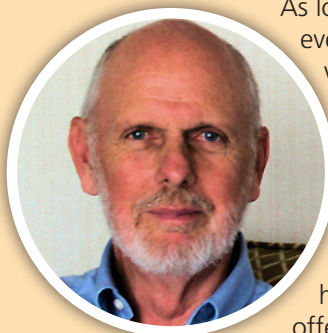
▶ Upload your digital images of your works directly into the on-line site, following the guidance provided.

View from new CDS President

Paul Rodhouse

Having just taken over as president I would like to use this opportunity to say how much I look forward to my time in this role and to update you on our plans for the coming months. Our Society is a tremendous body of talented, dynamic and dedicated artists and I sincerely hope you have remained safe and been able to produce new work, despite the difficulties of the past year. Sadly, this will not have been so for everyone and if you have experienced hardship and tragedy during this awful pandemic then our hearts go out to you.

We owe huge thanks to **Steve Ashman**, **Yvonne Jerrold** and **Brian Holley** for the tremendous work they have done to set up our first online exhibition. You will have seen the email circulated on the 27 February, the information is repeated here and all details about entering work are on the Society's web site. The rules are based on those we are familiar with for in-person exhibitions, but there are some differences, so please read them carefully. I encourage all members to submit their best work for this online exhibition. Here at last is the opportunity we have been waiting for so do take advantage of it. There must be a massive backlog of exciting new material produced before and during the



long spells of lockdown, and I for one look forward to seeing the best of it on my screen.

As long as we are unable to have in-person events, including talks and demonstrations, we will continue to stage entertaining and informative events online. The current programme is included here and you will receive notifications by email. As soon as possible we will get back to running our in-person exhibitions so you can look forward to getting together again to make these happen and to enjoy the social occasions they offer. In the meantime we will be planning more sustainable ways to operate, reducing our carbon footprint and consumption of single use plastic. Although our environmental impact is not large we believe we can make a difference by setting a positive example.

The Society is in a safe position financially for the time being and it is your contribution that will ensure our future. It is your creativity and artwork that makes us what we are and your volunteering that will keep us going. I look forward to working with all members of the Society over the next three years.

At the last AGM, retiring President **Lizanne Van Essen** was thanked by the committee and presented with an engraved glass vase and a bouquet of flowers to mark her retirement from the Society Presidentship.





Your Society needs you!

The Cambridge Drawing Society urgently needs a member or friend to manage our Social Media Profile. **Lynn Norton** has done this for the last five years and having rotated off the committee this year she wishes to pass the job on to someone new. You would not need to be a committee member. For a regular user of social media this would be a doddle and you'd be performing a vitally important function for the Society. If this roll is not filled we will be losing all the benefits that social media provides for publicity and communication.

Upcoming online events

The Society has lined up a full programme of evening events. These will primarily be on-line, with one physical talk planned for October. With the exception of the March talk, all dates and topics are to be confirmed.

March 24th	Anne Plummer (Guest Speaker) – ‘An Artist’s Journey Afloat’
April	Digital Art Debate – <i>Does digital art have a place in CDS?</i>
April	Jackie Duckworth
September	Colin Barker
October	Maureen Mace (Physical talk)
November	Sam Motherwell
December	Colin Lees

Astrig Akseralian gave the Society a very entertaining on-line evening talk on February 24th showing her artwork and work on movie props - *Harry Potter* amongst them.



Committee News

At the AGM held online on 18 February three committee members completed their term of office and we owe huge thanks to **Lizanne van Essen** for her work as President over the last three years, **Lynn Norton** for managing our social media profile and **Colin Hayes** for managing all the society's exhibition kit. I must also highlight the tremendous job that **Steve Ashman** has done for us as our secretary and the gratitude that we all owe him. I am delighted to say that he will be staying on in this role.

We have three new committee members, **Tracey Ashman** who will be responsible for non-exhibition events and **Tim Duckworth** who will be managing the exhibition kit. The third new member, **Sandra Buchanan**, represents the Society's Friends section, which itself is a newly created position. The other members who will continue their term on the committee are: **Colin Barker** (publicity), **Melanie Collins**, **Brian Holley** (treasurer) and **Yvonne Jerrold** (publicity).

I have the privilege of taking over as president, responsible for chairing the committee and steering our treasured Society through the next three years and, I hope, out of these challenging times. Please see attached the brief bios of the committee members to get an idea of what we each bring to the team for the tasks ahead. I very much look forward to working with this dynamic, committed and friendly group of people on your behalf.

Paul Rodhouse

2021 Committee Biographies

Steve Ashman – Honorary Secretary: My professional career was in the corporate world of telecommunications, initially with BT plc and finally with Verizon, an American company. I retired in 2016 and almost immediately took over the role of Honorary Secretary of the Society from my wife



Tracey, who was just about to undergo major surgery. Although no artist myself, my involvement with CDS has provided me with a much better understanding of art and the many techniques practiced by the Society's members. It has also been a joy to make many new friends from a broad range of backgrounds.

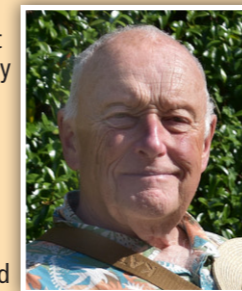
Tracey Ashman – Events Secretary:

I am a print-maker and have been a member of the Drawing Society since 2012. My interest and passion for art started when I studied as a mature student on an access course at Cambridge Regional College eighteen years ago, which stimulated a particular interest in printmaking. I then signed up to study textiles with Opus School of Fine Art Textiles, to explore and develop my printmaking. Wanting to expand my art history knowledge, I studied part-time with the Open University, graduating with a BA in Arts and Humanities. In 2014 I took on the role of secretary of the Drawing Society whilst attending The Curwen Print Centre, to complete a certificate in Fine Art Printmaking.

The cathartic role of creating art to heal and nourish is what inspires me, and developing my series of artworks is very much a therapy. My interest in textiles still influences my printmaking and I include stitch, be it knitted or sewn, in my imagery as a metaphor for healing, mending, growth and renewal.

Colin Barker – Publicity, Graphic Design:

My interest in art started at an early age and with encouragement from my school art teacher I gained a place at the Hornsey College of Art and graduated with a National Diploma in Design. Armed with this I went into publishing as a graphic designer specialising in magazine design. Later I became a civil servant at The Central Office of Information designing a wide range of public information material. A very rewarding job. During this time, I made a number of useful contacts. As a result, I decided to set myself up as a freelance designer in 1977. Fortunately, it was very successful and I am still employed today, (semi-retired) on an educational magazine. All the while I've continued to enjoy painting and drawing both representational and abstract subjects. I became a member of the CDS in 2014 and later became a committee member where I design publicity material - posters etc, for the Society.



Sandra Buchanan – Friends Representative:

In my youth I really enjoyed painting and drawing but, during my fourteen years as a secondary headteacher, I picked up neither pencil nor paintbrush, so I had a lot of catching up to do when I retired. I immediately took a C&G course in Printmaking, followed by A level Art at Hills Road and a Foundation course in Art and Design at Central St Martins. I became a Friend of Cambridge Drawing Society in 2015, much appreciating the opportunity to attend the range of talks and workshops on offer, and now look forward to representing the Friends on the Committee.



Melanie Collins:

Watercolours are a passion I returned to in retirement after a 40-year career in teaching and education management in Bristol, Kenya, Cambridge and Peterborough. It seems a long while since I studied A Level Art in the 1970s but I



have benefitted enormously from the professional guidance and encouragement of local experts and tutors especially within the CDS membership. It was a huge boost when I joined the Society in 2017 and I recognise how important this art network is for my own and others artistic development. What a pleasure to serve on the Committee and be involved in the recent Strategy Group debate and proposals.

Art is such an important part of my life now and I am constantly searching for new and creative styles, subjects and sentiments.

Tim Duckworth – Exhibition Screen Manager:

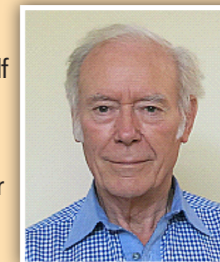
I have a keen interest in the visual arts. This has developed through the inspiration of my wife, Jackie Duckworth who is a printmaker & illustrator and has, amongst other things, been a regular contributor to Cambridge Drawing Society exhibitions since 2015. I have lived in Cambridge since the 1980s. My



background is in science, specifically chemistry, and I have worked as a patent attorney for more than 30 years.

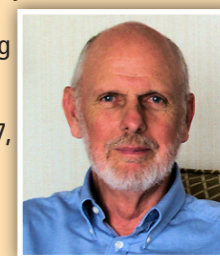
Brian Holley – Honorary Treasurer:

I am an art consumer not a producer. I spent half of my career as an Economics teacher and Educational researcher, the other half in the then nascent IT industry. In retirement I have busied myself in a number of honorary treasurer roles, including, from February 2019, that of the Cambridge Drawing Society. My interests include, in particular, IT, economics, politics, history, and the natural



Paul Rodhouse - President:

I am a painter, mainly in oils. I have been a member of the Cambridge Drawing Society since 2011 and a committee member since 2017, responsible for facilitating a small strategy group. As a youngster I was torn between art and natural history and after university spent my working life as biological oceanographer. Most recently I was head of biological science and a board member at the British Antarctic Survey. Twenty years ago, inspired by a visit to the gallery at the Mystic Seaport Museum, I started painting again for the first time since my teenage years.



Yvonne Jerrold – Publicity:

I joined the Cambridge Drawing Society in 1994 and the committee in 2017. On the committee I mainly deal with publicity, and I am also administrator for the forthcoming online exhibition.



I have drawn and painted all my life, except for a long break when I was an architect and had no time. When I returned to artwork, I painted mainly in oils until, about eight years ago, when I started stone-carving. Now I work mostly with limestone or polyphant, and my subjects tend to be semi-figurative images of people or animals. I tend not to plan, but am guided by the natural form of the stone towards whatever shape it wants to become.

Edited and designed by
Colin Barker

Further information about the Cambridge Drawing society can be found by checking in to
<http://www.cambridgedrawingsociety.org>