



Happy New Year to all our Members



We do hope you have all had a really enjoyable Christmas and welcomed the New Year in with optimism for the future.

Our **AGM will take place on Wednesday 27th January, 7:30pm for a brief, informal meeting.** As this has been an unusual year, the committee has decided that all papers would be emailed to members on Monday 25th January, a couple of days before the AGM. These will include a Chairman's report, a financial report and a few words on membership.

All committee members presently in place are willing to stand again but we do hope some of you will be interested in joining the committee – we will need your help more than ever this coming year and even if you do

not or cannot attend each month, there is plenty of scope for members to help with events etc. The programme for 2021 is listed below and is provisional at the moment. It will be confirmed later in the year.

DAN Provisional Programme for 2021

- **January 21st, 10:30am:** 'Call my Bluff' an exciting Zoom panel game!
- **February 18th:** 'Poetry Evening Open Mic Event' – members are very much encouraged to get involved.
- **March 17th:** Art Demo – tbc
- **April 15th:** Talk - tbc
- **May 19th:** 'Value of Art Therapy' by Claire Hilton
- **June:** Face to Face meeting - tbc
- **July:** En Plein Air plus musicians (local venue)
- **August:** Visit to the Museum of Carpet and ArtsFest weekend
- **September 15th:** Astronomical Photography – Colin Ross Jack

December DAN Zoom meeting – Quizzical!

Our largest zoom meeting to date and members enjoyed a brilliant evenings quiz with the hostess with the mostest **Helen Karakashian** delivering questions, some quite hard indeed! The quiz consisted of 6 rounds of 10 questions, each round themed with a tie breaker at the ready. Members were requested to dress up if they wanted by wearing a Christmassy hat and to feast on their own snacks and drinks. Members complied with some vigour! The well-deserved winners of the £20 prize were **Ruth** and **Stewart Bourne** with **Lyn Sharp** a close second and **Julia Rollit** took third place. A great evening involving everyone! Thanks go to our hardworking Chair, **Helen** for organising and running the event.



DAN Membership for 2021

During 2020 we met on Zoom every month which included presentations or performances by other artists and we envisage this continuing into 2021. The network gives opportunities to share ideas and to be involved in events and exhibitions even though the pandemic sadly caused the cancellation of many festivals, projects and activities during 2020. With a truly difficult year behind us we hope you have enjoyed what your membership of DAN has provided during 2020 and we look forward to seeing you all at our events and exhibitions (wherever and however they are held) during 2021.

January is renewal time of year for many of us and reminders are sent out automatically by MemberMojo. For our new members, MemberMojo is the online membership management software we all use to administrate DAN. You can use it to join, update details, renew and create membership cards easily from a PC, tablet or phone. The administrators send out group emails and newsletters which you will receive by email assuming you have given consent. All this wonderful software is bound to have a few glitches and we have found one or two! For instance, occasionally people get sent reminders when they have already paid – please forgive us if this has happened to you! Go [HERE](#) and select JOIN US / RENEW to update your details or renew.

SALE, SALE, SALE – Affordable Art Exhibition - a Reminder



Our online exhibition is still open to the public and can be reached by clicking [here](#), the exhibition itself is accessible from the home page.

There is a wide variety of art still available that could look good in your home or be suitable as a present, at affordable prices. DAN will not charge any commission on sales which will be by direct transactions between the artist and the buyer.

Three versions of the leaflet shown here, have now been distributed locally. If you wish to use any of them you can print them for display or use a PDF version to send to your contacts by email, or posting on social media. **Rhys Jones** can provide these PDF versions.

Artwork Sales

Parks Café will not be open again after the Christmas break. **Lyn Davies** and **Stephen Evens** are exhibiting up until 12th January so hopefully the Café will be open soon. Last month with only 2 weeks to exhibit, **Tina Watkins** sold three paintings as did **Penny Dykes** the previous month. Parks is THE place to be seen and to sell art at the moment so we very much look forward to its reopening! Well done everyone!

DAN Who's Who for January



And Mrs January is... **Chel Walton** who says.. "I am a local girl, born and educated in Droitwich, living away for 10 years, before moving back here in 1992. I am very much an amateur in art and, as a former primary school teacher, I would describe myself as a "Blue Peter" artist!!! I have dabbled with all sorts of media and photography and this year I have experimenting with mixed media using acrylics and photographs! I would say that art has been my saviour during 2020, probably the only thing that has saved my sanity! After trying, and failing miserably, using watercolours, I discovered tutorials at Quirkybirds Watercolours by Lynn and with her tips and guidance, I was able to produce a painting of a poppy, the only piece of art that my husband has allowed to go on our wall, as well as making simple but effective Christmas cards!"

And Finally..... a themed Arts and Crafts Section

For January we are launching a themed Art and Crafts section of the newsletter for a couple of months – imagine a whole third page featuring pictures of all forms of artworks be it art, poetry, creative writing, sculpture, music and drama! **January's theme is ALCOHOL!** Something we are either enjoying, going Dry January or not imbibing at all and as such provides much scope for our imagination. These could be funny, serious or just plain silly! The themed art work need not be framed or any particular size – I just need a photo with your name to show in the coming newsletters, send in pics of your artwork to me by email, address is [HERE](#). It really is just to be a bit of fun and to see what our members can create quickly. **Last day for receipt is 27th January.**

Next month we will ask you to choose an item from the gallery and feature the 'members choice' on the website too – perhaps with a sentence or two from the artist! **Rhys** has set up a blog on the DAN website and will feature the 'members choice' on the Website. What do you think? Any thoughts on a theme for the future? Tina

DAN Exhibitions and Special Interest Groups

Parks Café : **Roger Ricketts** and **Stephen Evens** are exhibiting until **12th January** then **Rosie Philpott**. Contact [Rosie Philpott](#) for details and to register.

Norbury Theatre has films planned for January, February and March, along with screenings of ballets, operas and other stage shows. The first live production will be 'Charley's Aunt' in May, followed by 'Legally Blond' in the summer, 'Goodnight Mr Tom' in September, '9 to 5' later in the autumn and the return of panto – 'Snow White' in January, 2022. Chairman Anne Lane and a small band of volunteers have been working hard, when restrictions allowed, to improve the venue and make it Covid-secure. Full programme of events on www.norburytheatre.co.uk (Box Office: 01905 770154)

For the latest information visit: <http://www.droitwichartsnetwork.org/> on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/groups/208713719174369/> e-mail tina.watkins@ntlworld.com