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NEWSLETTER JULY 2012

Hello Everyone,

From the President

Many of you will be aware that I have recently been away on a cycling holiday in the Netherlands. I have started cycling again over the last five years like many older people around the country (in fact someone described cycling as the new golf) and after reading a fair few cycle touring books I put a trip on my bucket list. Initially I was pretty keen on riding the length of France but I soon decided that perhaps that might be a little ambitious. On holiday last year I was impressed with the interesting towns of Holland, the flat land and the great cycling infrastructure. These factors combined with the fact that I have friends who were happy to pick me, and my bike, up from the airport led me to start organising.

My bike ride started in Alphen aan den Rijn and took me to the north sea, round the north of Amsterdam to the lakes which were the Zuiderzee before it was isolated from the north sea by a couple of big causeways. I then rode through Marken, Volendam, Hoorne and Enkhuizen before crossing the 30km long dyke (tail wind thank goodness) to the newly reclaimed lands of Flevoland. My journey then took me through Urk, Blokzijl, and Giethoorn. Then I headed south before crossing back to my start point. I camped in camping grounds but did not take any cooking gear so breakfast was a bit hit and miss. If I had found a supermarket the previous day I might have a banana and a meusli bar but often all I had was a drink of water, so, as you can imagine I was hanging out for something to eat when the cafes opened some time between 10 and 11am.

I managed a fair few sketches as I went and found that getting out my sketchpad was a great way to meet people, as everyone was interested in what I was doing. Many people I met had some New Zealand connection.

The highlight of the trip, artistically, was a visit to the Kroller-Muller museum in the centre of the Hoge Veluwe national park. This museum has a great collection dominated by 90 paintings by Van Gogh as well as many works by most important 19th and 20th century artists. The museum lets the beautiful forest garden in with big windows and courtyard gardens and a great sculpture garden covering many hectares.

CULVERDEN GALLERY

Just a little information for members who have exhibited at the Culverden gallery, Julius is taking a position teaching in China starting in late August. He is hoping to

find someone to manage the gallery while he is away but is uncertain whether it will remain open. He will be in contact with exhibitors over the next month or so.

Quilliam

SPRING EXHIBITION

This month is the time to get organised for our Spring Festival. All entries have to be in to the Treasurer by Tuesday 14 August. No late entries will be accepted. As always we look forward to a great exhibition.

PREPARING YOUR EXHIBITS:

It is important that all works should be well presented. Please ensure that you adhere to the requirements set out in each of the sections and on the 3-fold pamphlet. Work that is framed should be in fresh looking, undamaged frames. Paintings should be perfectly dry. Work that is still tacky or damp cannot be accepted. All paintings must be appropriately strung for hanging. If this is omitted then we have no means of showing your exhibit.

If everyone follows the requirements we will have no disappointed members and everyone will be happy!

TUTORIALS:

We all enjoyed our Water Colour workshop with Elke. It was fun and I think everyone enjoyed the freedom of just drawing/painting with his/her brush. If you would like to join Mark Lander's workshop on Drawing (17 or 21 July), or Paula Humphries' Acrylic workshop (7 or 11 August) there is still time to do so. Just give Mary a call on 313 5740.

2013 CALENDAR

As previously notified we are planning that next years calendar should feature pictures of Rangiora old and new. Pictures should be with Quilliam before the end of July. He can photograph paintings any Tuesday or if you have a good digital image please email it to him.

GALLERY VISITS

We are considering organising a trip to visit some of those Christchurch galleries, which are still open. If you are interested please let Mary Overtoom know. Ph 313 5740

Happy Painting,
Ngairé.