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January - February 2021

Happy New Year everyone! We hope you are all well and rested, ready to join us again this year. We resume our regular sessions on Tuesday, 2nd February. A special welcome to our new members, Jude McLennan, Lisa Patrick and Sally de Beer. We have a busy programme planned for the year but, as for 2020, everything is subject to conditions around Covid-19. In the meantime, please be kind to yourself and others, if you feel unwell then stay at home or seek medical assistance, you know the drill.

Tuesday sessions: All sessions resume on Tuesday 2nd February at the Jubilee Centre (Rangiora Showgrounds on Ashley Street, Rangiora). The daytime session runs from 9:00 am to 2:30 pm and the evening session from 6-9:00 pm. The \$3 session charge to cover hall hire remains until further notice.

Membership Subscriptions: Usually, at this time of year, we remind members that to be able to exhibit with RAS they need to be financial members, that is, paid up no later than 31 March. Last year the committee made the decision to extend the 2020 subscription until March 2022. The committee was very aware how disappointed some members were to not have the annual exhibition. Some RAS members indicated that they were willing to pay their annual subscription for 2021, that is their choice. We hope that our planning this year is not as interrupted, and the exhibition can go ahead. We shall have to wait and see how things work out for us all. For new members, the subscription charge remains at \$25.00.

Rymans Art Expo at Charles Upham: Despite the difficult conditions in 2020 due to Covid-19, we had a similar number of entries to the exhibition. Pleasingly, the sales were only slightly less than 2019. We were able to donate \$1,000 to Rymans for their nominated charity, Melanoma. After expenses we still made a profit. The success of the exhibition was made possible with the help of our excellent team of volunteers. A big thank you goes to all the volunteers who provided back up for the committee during the exhibition, especially Rodger Barson and Russell Hobbs who performed sterling service with their power tools.

RAS Calendar 2021: The RAS 2021 calendars have sold well. There are very few left. Please contact the committee if you want one. Each calendar is \$15.00 to members, \$20 to the general public.

RAS Christmas Lunch 2020: For yet another year we thoroughly enjoyed our lunch at The Flat White Cafe, at Pegasus. We celebrated the end of 2020 in style in this very convivial atmosphere with good friends, old and new.

En Plein Air Painting: Carolyn Abernethy and Graham Williams have planned an En Plein Air outing for those who are interested.

Date: Tuesday 2nd February 2021, Time: 9:00 am until 1:30 pm.

Venue: Gatekeeper's cottage, Ohoka Domain 479-493 Mill Road, Ohoka.

The heritage gate keeper's cottage has recently been relocated and restored. Toilets available on site. Bring your own gear, drinks and food. (Note: A petrol station close by sells coffee, cold drinks, sandwiches, cakes, slices and hot pies).

Postponement: If wet, the session will be postponed until the following Tuesday (9th February). A decision will be made by 7.00am on the day and a notice will be posted on the RAS Facebook page, and emails sent to those interested by 7.30am.

For more information, please contact Carolyn Abernethy 03 312 8524 or Graham Williams 03 261 2030.

2021 RAS Calendar of Events: Please keep these dates in mind:

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| February 2 | At Jubilee Centre, Rangiora A & P Showgrounds, Rangiora.
9am to 2:30pm and 6pm to 9pm
Topic: Summer Dreaming / En Plein Air at Ohoka (see notice) |
| February 9 | At Jubilee Centre, Rangiora A & P Showgrounds, Rangiora.
9am to 2:30pm and 6pm to 9pm
Topic: Beside the Sea / Postponement date for En Plein Air |
| February 16 | At Jubilee Centre, Rangiora A & P Showgrounds, Rangiora.
9am to 2:30pm and 6pm to 9pm
Topic: Beside the Sea |
| February 23 | At Jubilee Centre, Rangiora A & P Showgrounds, Rangiora.
9am to 2:30pm and 6pm to 9pm
Topic: The Bach/Crib |

Other Events:

- **Southern Splash:** Watercolour New Zealand exhibition at Akaroa Orion Gallery, 1 Rue Pompallier 10am-4pm daily. 30 January- 21 February.
- **Pan-Pan:** Eastside Multicultural Exhibition 2021. 4-21 February at Eastside Gallery, 388 Worcester Street; 11am-5pm Wednesday-Saturday. Plenty of free parking.
- **Our Life:** Eastside Gallery. 23 February-13 March. 11am-5pm Wednesday-Saturday.
- **Nick of Time:** Lisa Grenell. Little River Gallery. 30 January-23 February.
- **Into the Wild:** Art Gallery in Darfield. Opening from 29 January.

Be kind to yourself and others. Happy painting everyone.