



## Newsletter - January 2020

A slightly belated Happy New Year to all, and our best wishes for a successful and creative 2020

### 2019 update, and 2020 plans

Last year proved to be a turning point for the Natural World Art Society, in that we had to make the difficult decision to alter our association with the Zoological Society of East Anglia and Banham Zoo, by leaving our home gallery.

Since being asked to transfer from the original gallery inside the zoo, to a new building outside the main entrance, we have found that our sales have fallen, footfall is less and artists have not been entirely happy in the space. We have, therefore, after full and open discussions with the zoo's new CEO, agreed that NWAS will no longer regularly exhibit at Banham. However, plans are currently being explored, to hold smaller, specifically-aimed exhibitions inside the zoo, in conjunction with conservation promotions organised by ZSEA, as part of their Connecting with Nature strategies. Once we have more information, and can plan how we can collaborate with ZSEA, all members will be notified.

Although we have lost our home base, we have, nevertheless, been able to find new venues for a series of exhibitions during 2020, as detailed below. The dates shown will help you all with your planning. Further information on specific themes, eligibility for submissions, costs, dates etc will be sent out to all 2019 members following our committee meeting on 7 February

Norfolk Wildlife Trust, Cley Reserve, Norfolk 13 - 26 May

Wymondham Arts centre, Becket's Chapel, Wymondham, Norfolk 20 - 27 July

The Forum, Norwich 28 Sept - 2 October

### 2019 Exhibitions

As we said above, the exhibitions held at Banham by NWAS and one or two held by individual artists did not offer high returns for all the work involved. Given the very high standard of work submitted, it was disappointing for NWAS and the artists. However, the exhibition at the Forum in Norwich was one of the best, in terms of quality of submissions, sales and number of visitors, which has resulted in our booking space again for 2020. We look forward to the same high standards and successful outcomes.



## **Membership**

At the end of 2019, we had a very healthy membership, although not all our members submitted work for every exhibition. The membership fee will remain at £20 for 2020, but, in view of the higher costs in hiring venues and staging exhibitions, we may need to increase the membership fee in the future. However, the Committee feel that we can maintain the current fee for this year, to encourage all to participate. Subscriptions are now due, and you can pay by Direct Transfer into the NWAS bank account. Please include your Surname/2020 as reference. You can download membership application forms from our website: <http://www.naturalworldartsociety.co.uk>

### *NWAS bank information:*

Natural World Art Society  
Barclays Bank  
Sort Code 20-16-12  
Account No. 53868737

## **NWAS Management Committee**

Although we have a dedicated band of committee members at the moment, we would love to have one or two more. New committee members often bring new ideas and suggestions, as well as needed manpower for setting up exhibitions etc. If you'd like to join the team, please let us know

The current team is:

Viv Rainsbury (Secretary)

email: [secretary.nwas@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.nwas@gmail.com)

Frances Sullivan

email: [fsullivan.asea@btinternet.com](mailto:fsullivan.asea@btinternet.com)

Chris Bacon

Carol Cresswell

Ruth Straughan

Lorraine Auton

Tony Colledge

Justso James Ridington

Marlene Ridington

## **In conclusion**

Thank you all for your ongoing support. We look forward to seeing more of your work in 2020, and we hope for a successful future for all our artists and for the Natural World Art Society.

Best wishes

*Viv*

Viv Rainsbury